

Note to Reviewers: The draft conservation objectives presented in this handout are intended to provide guidance for use in developing, evaluating, and creating short-listing criteria for the preliminary conservation strategy alternatives. As such, these draft conservation objectives may be revised if needed to better meet the needs of the BDCP planning process. It is anticipated that each of the following draft conservation objectives would apply to each of the covered fish species.

BDCP Draft Conservation Objectives

1. Reduce levels of species mortality attributable to non-natural mortality sources to maintain species abundance and production potential

2. Provide for water quality conditions that support species production (reproduction, growth, survival), abundance, and distribution

[Note: this includes water quality parameters such as DO and toxics/contaminants]

3. Increase habitat quality, availability, geographic distribution, diversity, and connectivity to increase and sustain species production (reproduction, growth, survival), abundance, and distribution

[Note: this incorporates habitat-related stressors, including flow-related parameters, previously addressed under Conservation Theme 2]

4. Increase species resilience to maintain species survival under extreme environmental conditions and catastrophic events

5. Increase food availability (e.g., phytoplankton, zooplankton, macroinvertebrates, forage fish) to increase species production (reproduction, growth, survival, abundance)

[Note: this incorporates food-related stressors previously addressed under Conservation Theme 2]

6. Reduce the abundance of non-native species' competitors and predators to increase native species production, abundance, and distribution

7. Provide for the maintenance of species production, abundance, and distribution under possible altered future environmental conditions

[Note: this incorporates global warming, sea level rise, subsidence/failed levee, and future introductions stressors previously addressed under Conservation Theme 3]